

## Aviation Executive Appointed Full-Time Chamber Secretary

Appointment of Harry Burton Lewis to the post of full-time executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at a yearly salary of \$5000 was authorized yesterday afternoon by the board of directors, it was announced today by James L. Lynch, Chamber president. Lewis took over the office today. Mrs. Leonard Young remains as assistant secretary.

Lewis is widely known in the field of aviation and was recommended to Chamber directors by Glenn B. Eastman, transportation manager of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. At present Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and their young son are residing in Manhattan Beach, but plan to move to Torrance as soon as accommodations can be secured.

The new executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber is a quiet, sincere type of individual who modestly refrains from talking about himself. However, his career as listed in "Who's Who in Aviation," reveals many noteworthy accomplishments as a business executive and pilot. Among his awards are the Distinguished Flying Cross, Croix de Guerre and Mons Star.

"Who's Who in Aviation" lists Lewis' business record as: "Vice president Williams Aircraft Corporation and Roger Q. Williams School of Aeronautics, Toledo, Ohio, since 1940; assistant vice president, insurance director and operations superintendent of Pan American Airways, 1928-31; president, Gulf & Caribbean Airways, 1932-34; aviation survey of southern states for possible freight service, 1934-36; aviation manager of Lubbock, Texas, Chamber of Commerce, 1930."

His military record as listed in "Who's Who" is: "Pilot observer R.F.C., England, 1915-19; assistant model airway control office, U. S. Army Air Corps, 1919-28; Venezuelan Air Service; Hon. Pilot Officer, R.A.F." He learned to fly in the R.F.C. at Exbridge, England, in 1915, and has logged 4,859 hours.

Lewis was born in Hallettsville, Texas, March 1, 1897. He was awarded his B.A. degree at the University of Dayton in 1924 and an LL.B. at La Salle University, Philadelphia, in 1932. He is a member of the Quiet Birdman, World War Birds, A.F. A.M., American Legion, National Sojourners and the B.P.O.E.

"Who's Who" also lists Lewis as the author of "Airline Traffic Management, 1941; and Airport Management, 1941."

**Madrid Avenue Segments Will Be Abandoned**

Two small "paper streets" were ordered abandoned by the Torrance city council at an adjourned regular session held late Monday afternoon.

City maps show 100 feet north and 100 feet south of 203rd st., designated as Madrid ave., never improved or used for street purposes. The council took the view that the "street" segments are not needed in that locality now, nor likely to be for some time to come. The surrounding property is owned by the city under tax deed title and the city has an opportunity to dispose of the land to advantage, it was said.

Four members of the council were present at the session and voted unanimously to start abandonment proceedings.

**Mrs. Louis Brossart Sponsors Army Tug**

Mrs. Louis Brossart of 22020 So. Figueroa st. was chosen as the sponsor for a 96-foot Army tug built by the Wilmington Boat Works and launched last Saturday morning. Mrs. R. Leeger of Lynwood was matron of honor. The ladies' husbands are employed at that plant.

**Torrance Plant Playing Major Role In Building Landing Craft**

With one-fourth of the Navy's 1944 ship construction appropriation set aside for priority production of 45,000 landing craft, a Torrance manufacturer of war material will take a major part in the planned invasion of Axis strongholds, Rear Adm. Joseph R. DeFrees, USN (ret.), inspector of naval material, Eleventh Naval District, announced today.

Helping to produce the essential craft is the National Supply Company, 1524 Border ave., the admiral said.

The 45,000 landing craft will augment a large landing craft fleet at present numbering 20,000. Undersecretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal stated recently. New craft will range from small amphibious tractors to comparatively new huge LSTs and the overall program will total five billion dollars.

Undersecretary Forrestal said the invasion dates are already determined, making the need for landing craft acute. He stressed that success or failure of inva-

## Youth Held by Police Admits 12 Car Thefts

Charged with purloining at least 12 automobiles which he drove around for a while, returned them to where he started or abandoned them wherever his gasoline ran out, William Castle, 16, employee of the Columbia Steel Company at Torrance, was arrested last night. Arraigned before City Judge C. B. Willett in Torrance this morning, he was certified to the juvenile court.

Castle told officers he didn't know the whereabouts of his father or mother, but he is now living with his grandmother, Mrs. Laura Franklin at 25122 Walnut st., Lomita. He was arrested when he started to drive a car off the Columbia Steel Company lot in which officers found a crash helmet belonging to the car's owner. The car that caused his downfall belonged to W. S. Brunskill of 24555 Woodward ave., Lomita.

In addition to the car that caused his arrest, the youngster allegedly admitted taking the following automobiles in the last few days, thus solving a number of car theft cases that have kept Torrance police alert for the last week.

A Willys sedan, stolen from the Columbia Steel parking lot, owner not known. This car was recovered.

Ford sedan, taken from National Supply lot and recovered. Owner not yet identified.

Ford coupe, registered to A. C. Thomas, 2553 219th st., taken from National Supply lot Jan. 30 and recovered after being abandoned at 248th and Narbonne, Lomita, on Jan. 31.

Chrysler sedan, registered to Floyd F. Alford, 24339 Narbonne, Lomita, recovered when left on Columbia Steel lot yesterday.

Studebaker "pick up" truck.

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## Homes Project Near Torrance Starting Soon

As a result of negotiations which have been pending for the past six months, a housing project calling for construction of 180 units on a 20-acre subdivision on East 182nd st., between Normandie and Vermont aves., at a cost of \$50,000 is expected to be under way before the end of the present month and is a part of \$2,500,000 worth of new housing projects projected for the Torrance area, according to information revealed by Pat MacDonnell, Area Federal Housing Center manager.

Promoting the project is Dawson Homes, Inc., on property owned by Judge Frank Carrell of Gardena. The houses are to be one and two-bedroom units fully equipped with floor, gas and water heaters.

A representative of the builder is quoted as saying that contracts have been let and that actual construction only awaits commitments from the Federal Housing Administration.

Other members of the class are: Daisy Estelle Blackburn, Thelma Doris Daniels, Ramona Ruth DeBra, Beverly Virginia Fouts, Dorothy Jean Kelton, Mary Kathryn Kelly, Ruth Elizabeth Kerber, Anna Bernadine Maloy.

Shirley McVicar, Louise Mac Myllymaki, Barbara Jean Quimby, Hazel Joyce Rossiter, Lorraine June Schmidt, Lorraine Grace Stanley and Elizabeth Jane Turner.

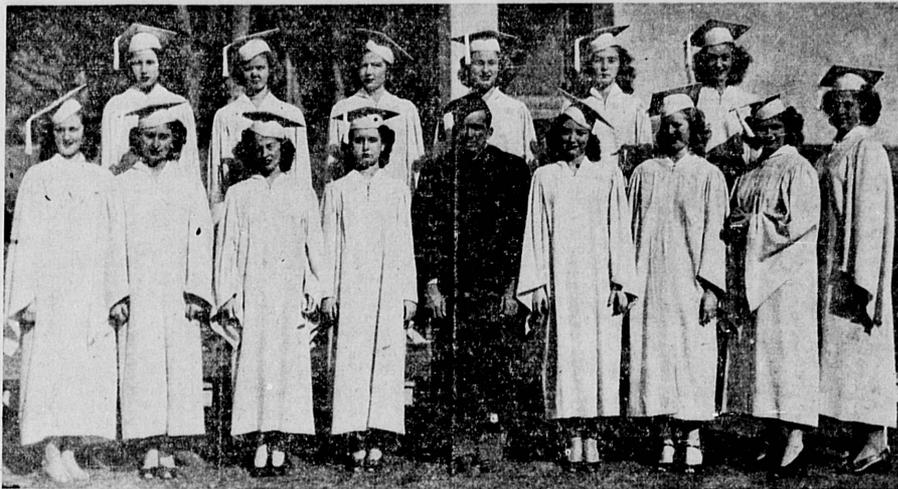
A feature of the program will be a tribute to the absent members of the class to be delivered by Barbara Quimby.

Contributions of the girls of the class to the war effort will be explained by Kathryn Kelly. Achievements of the class will be reviewed by Ruth Elizabeth Kerber, who will then present the class gift to the school.

Presentation of the winter class of 1944 will be made by John A. Barrington, followed by presentation of diplomas by Principal Harold E. Perry and Miss Elizabeth F. Parks.

The public is invited to the ceremonies.

**ROTARY SPEAKER**  
"Debunking the Meat Propaganda" will be the topic tonight of Tony Whan, guest speaker at the Torrance Rotary club dinner. Whan is associated with a large packing company. The dinner will be at the Woman's clubhouse.



TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL WINTER CLASS '44 GRADUATES  
Front row—Shirley McVicar, Ruth Kerber, Joyce Rossiter, Mary Kathryn Kelly, J. A. Barrington, Jr., Dorothy Kelton, Beverly Fouts, Dorris Daniels, Ramona DeBra. Back row—Anna Maloy, Daisy Blackburn, Lorraine Stanley, Barbara Quimby, Louise Myllymaki and Lorraine Schmidt.

## Torrance High School Winter Class of 1944 Graduating Tonight

Like most all other higher education institutions in the country, the present war has taken its toll from the Torrance High school. The graduating class of 21 to graduate in ceremonies tonight at the school auditorium is the smallest one in many years, states Harold Perry, the principal.

Unless something unexpected happens in the meantime, there will be only 16 of the 21 appearing on the stage during the graduating exercises at the High School Auditorium at 8 o'clock, when the commencement exercises are scheduled to begin.

Four in Service  
Five members of the class are already in the armed services—four in the U. S. Navy and one in the U. S. Coast Guard. Those in the Navy, all anxious to get a whack at the Japs to avenge Pearl Harbor and the astounding Nipponese atrocities inflicted upon prisoners of war in the Philippines and elsewhere as revealed to the American public during the past week, are: Monty Koch, Jim Prime, Stuart Smith and Paul Svensk. But they are no more anxious than Wallace Woods, who went into the Coast Guard, to put Hirohito and Tojo where they belong. All these five have been issued diplomas which will be delivered to their parents unless they get leave to come here in person, which is not expected.

One Man in Class  
There will be only one young man present with the class when the diplomas are handed out tonight—he is J. A. Barrington, Jr., who will be leaving within the next few days to begin his actual training for service with the Navy. He enlisted some time ago, but was permitted to complete his high school course.

Other members of the class are:

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## Former Cowboy, Now a Chipper At Calship, Wins \$25 Bond for Designing Time-Saving Tool

Winner of a suggestion or idea contest staged recently at the California Shipbuilding Corporation's plant at Terminal Island, J. D. Poston, who makes his home in Torrance, this week was awarded a \$25 war bond.

Poston designed a tool now in general use at the plant which is found to not only save time but increase efficiency. It may be used for several purposes, in making the proper preparation of shell joints for welding, or in pre-fabrication, as well as on hulls wherever seams are tight. Seams can be cleaned out at the average of from 4 to 4½ feet per minute and eliminates burning, which takes twice as long, also chipping, which takes twice as long. When the chipper completes the operation the seam is ready for welding, according to Calship advisers. About 100 of the tools are used daily at the Calship yard.

Poston is 34 years of age, a native of Oklahoma, where he was a cowboy and ranch foreman. He came to California eight years ago. He worked for the National Supply Company in Torrance as a chipper for 2½ years, also at the Columbia Steel Corporation plant as chipper for 11 months.

He went to Calship 20 months ago as a chipper. His present status at that plant is a chipper foreman-instructor, Ways 1 to 7. Poston is married, has four children and resides with his family at 23001 Eshelman st., Route 1, Torrance.

**Chest Service Center Assured For Torrance**

Torrance has been assured of the opening of an office to be designated as a "Service Center for Community Chest Agencies," it was announced today by Hillman Lee, who was chairman of the recent L. A. Area War Chest drive in this community.

Establishment of the office is anticipated in the near future, probably by the last week in February, if present plans carry. The office will be provided with a full-time clerical personnel to handle any cases that may arise in Torrance and the agency proposes to extend its services over a wide field area, such as family welfare, child welfare, group work and health aids, it was announced.

**Local Area Youths In U. S. Navy Service**

Volunteering for enlistment in the Navy, five local area youths, all 17 years of age, were sworn in this week, it was announced today by George W. Saunders, specialist recruiter first class, in charge of the San Pedro Navy recruiting station.

Those enlisted were: Don A. Baxter, Jr., 1221 Anacia st., Torrance; Paul Trujillo, 1647 Carson st., Torrance; Alden G. Whittier, 1614 25th st., Harbor City; Jerry A. Yancey, Jr., 725 Harbor Hills, Lomita; Willie P. Meser, 1872 N. Palos Verdes drive, Lomita.

These boys are now at a naval training station, where they are undergoing their Navy indoctrination and seamanship training period, Saunders said.

**Mrs. B. F. Townsend Dies at Long Beach**

The many friends of Mrs. B. F. Townsend will regret to hear of her passing following an emergency operation at Long Beach. She was taken ill on Monday, Jan. 24, and died the following Thursday, Jan. 27.

She is survived by her husband, five sons, two daughters and 18 grandchildren. The sons are: O. F. Dominguez; Herman and Ben, Redondo Beach; Swain, Houston, Tex., and Joe of Torrance. The daughters: Mrs. I. Pearce, Keystone; Mrs. Oma Lee Gossett, Torrance.

**PASADENA GUEST**  
Dr. K. F. Siekemann entertained as her guest last Wednesday her nephew, Carl Frank, a South Pasadena contractor.

**ATTEND BROADCAST**  
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Kerber and Mrs. C. Ericson were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mayer of 1720 Cabrillo ave. last Wednesday evening when the group attended an NBC broadcast.

**BUILDING PERMITS**  
The Torrance city engineer's office issued new building permits during the month of January, 1944, amounting to \$70,300, compared with \$59,605 during the same period of 1943.

## War Bond Sales Rise Over \$400,000 Mark, Chairman Lee States

While tabulation of Fourth War Loan bond sales are yet incomplete, Hillman R. Lee, chairman of the Torrance War Finance Committee, indicated today that total purchases since the current campaign was begun has exceeded the \$400,000 mark, which, he said, is a good approach to the \$550,000 quota set for Torrance.

The house-to-house campaign, which has been ended, brought liberal responses from the residential districts, more than \$12,000 having been collected from that source.

**Corporation Sales**  
Sales to corporations began coming in this week which have gone a long way toward advancing to the \$200,000 mark. Available among these was the National Supply Company, with \$75,000; So. California Edison Co., \$15,000; Torrance Municipal Water Department, \$60,000; Southern California Gas Company, \$4,000.

Members of the Torrance Rotary club set aside last Thursday night as "Bond Rally Night" and they are credited with having made sales amounting to \$10,000.

Among fraternities, the Torrance lodge of Moose has subscribed \$1,300 more than its quota of \$4,000 to the fund which is being used to fight the war to a successful conclusion and put Hitler and Hirohito out of business and eliminate them from promoting any future wars. Moose officials say they have not stopped yet.

The Grand Theatre, of which Jack Dabbs is manager, has become an authorized agency for the sale of U. S. war bonds. The theatre has cooperated loyally with other agencies in promotion of war bond sales.

**Torture Stories Help**  
Chairman Lee advises that since disclosure of the tortures inflicted by Japanese on Americans and Filipinos taken as prisoners of war following the fall of Bataan and Corregidor it has aroused many people to the seriousness of the war with Japan and has had the effect of stimulating the sale of bonds everywhere over the nation.

"At least this is the information coming to me from authorities in a position to know. I feel sure that the same situation prevails here. I am confident that we will go over our goal, which means that many of our citizens realize that by keeping our armed forces supplied with the equipment they need victory will be quickened and

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**Council Votes \$590 Refund on Tax Deed Land**

At the adjourned regular session of the Torrance city council late Monday afternoon a refund of \$590 was authorized to the California National Builders and the Investment Securities Company.

It was explained that the organizations involved had held an option and contract for the purchase of 59 parcels of property in block 9901 in the City of Torrance executed in April, 1943. The option was to run for 60 days with a proviso that in event priorities for certain proposed construction work not obtained, the city would return the deposit at the expiration of the 60-day period. Application for the refund had not been made until recently.

Following this action the city clerk was authorized to purchase tax deed title to lots A and L2 in Tract 9901. Meanwhile the council is negotiating sale of these lots and the aforementioned 59 parcels.

Then bring them, as soon as you can, to the storeroom at 1217 El Prado, Torrance, where they will be offered for sale daily until Feb. 12. You will be paid the full selling price of your articles here. I am confident that we will go over our goal, which means that many of our citizens realize that by keeping our armed forces supplied with the equipment they need victory will be quickened and

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## Used Articles To Be Auctioned For War Stamps

Have you any used articles of clothing, housewares, furniture, children's toys or anything else of value that you would like to convert into U. S. war stamps and bonds?

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## Thousands View Storm Wreckage At Redondo Beach

Thousands of sightseers thronged Redondo Beach last Sunday, despite the light rain, to view the damage wrought along the Strand by high tides and storms during the previous week.

During the day a high tide of 4.2 feet caused no new damage although the surf washed beneath the sidewalks between Fourth and Sixth sts., parts of which had been barricaded for safety.

City Engineer D. L. Bunde of Redondo Beach spotted the keel of an unidentified storm-wrecked ship submerged and stuck in the sand north of the municipal pier. For the time being it was not considered a hazard.

In the storm of ten days ago gales swept in from the ocean to Torrance when one tree was blown down to halt traffic at Yukon and Dominguez sts. and two plate glass windows were broken on Sartori ave.—at the Verdi Dress Shop and R. B. Cut Rate Drug Store—by steel braces from awnings torn by the wind.

The cooperation of the entire community and its many organizations is sought by the committee in the hope that its efforts will not only support the Fourth War Loan but will be instrumental in exchanging many articles which may not be of use to the present owners into hands of others who are unable to purchase such articles at the present due to wartime restrictions. The plan has the hearty approval of Hillman R. Lee, chairman of Torrance War Loan Committee.



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